

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT ACCORDING TO 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

APPLICANT: TORSTEN NIEDERDRÄNK, et al. CASE NO.: P03,0625

SERIAL NO.: 10/772,700 GROUP ART UNIT: 2643

FILING DATE: February 5, 2004 CONFIRMATION NO.: 4885

INVENTION: "DEVICE AND METHOD FOR COMMUNICATION OF HEARING

AIDS"

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98, Applicant respectfully requests that a citation and examination of the references identified on the attached PTO 1449 form be made during the course of examination of the above-identified application for United States Patent.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed according to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) and before the latter occurrence of:

- (1) three months from the filing date of a national application;
- (2) three months from the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.491 in an international application; or
- (3) the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

REMARKS

The attached PTO 1449 form lists related art references for the above identified application.

EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE

The relevance of references AL and AM was discussed in the Specification. These references are German patent documents. An English language Derwent abstract has been provided for reference AL, and a full translation will be produced at the request of the Examiner. Reference AA is an English language corresponding U.S. Patent Application for reference AM

The filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not to be construed as an admission that the information cited in the present Information Disclosure Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

The above citation of related art is not a representation that such art constitutes a complete or exhaustive listing of all pertinent related art, nor that it necessarily includes the closest or most relevant art. The aforementioned citation comprises a voluntary citation of related art of which applicant and his attorney are presently aware and is not intended to serve as a substitute for the Examiner's own search.

Submitted by,

Mah Bergner (Reg. No. 45,877)

Mark Bergner

SCHIFF HARDIN, LLP

PATENT DEPARTMENT

6600 Sears Tower

Chicago, Illinois 60606-6473

(312) 258-5779

Attorney for Applicant(s)

CUSTOMER NUMBER 26574



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on May 12, 2004.

Mark Bergner

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (use several sheets if necessary) | Docket No. | Serial No. | 10/772,700 | Applicant |

Torsten Niederdrank, et al.

Filing Date Group Art Unit
February 5, 2004 2643

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | U.S | S. PATENT I | OCUMENTS | | | | |
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| Examiner's Initials | | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Subclass | Filing D approp | ate If |
| | AA | 2003/0133582 A1 | 7/17/2003 | Niederdrank | | | | |
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| | AL | 195 44 546 A1 | 11/29/1995 | Germany | | | Abst. | |
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OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.